
Medicare Program Integrity Manual

Department of Health and
Human Services (DHHS)
HEALTH CARE FINANCING
ADMINISTRATION (HCFA)

Transmittal 6

Date: MAY 24, 2001

CHANGE REQUEST 1581

<u>CHAPTER NUMBERS</u>	<u>NEW SECTIONS</u>	<u>REVISED SECTIONS</u>	<u>DELETED SECTIONS</u>
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1	7.4	---	---

NEW/REVISED MATERIAL--EFFECTIVE DATE: May 24, 2001
IMPLEMENTATION DATE: May 24, 2001

Section 7.4, Maintaining the Confidentiality of MR Records, is a new section added to instruct contractors to maintain the confidentiality of all MR records before, during, and after the MR process.

NOTE: Red italicized font identifies new material.

These instructions should be implemented within your current operating budget.

Medicare Program Integrity Manual

Chapter 1 - Overview of Medical Review (MR) and Benefit Integrity (BI) and Medicare Integrity Program-Provider Education and Training (MIP-PET) Programs

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[7 - Other Program Integrity \(PI\) Requirements](#)

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[7.4 - *Maintaining the Confidentiality of MR Records*](#)

7.4 - Maintaining the Confidentiality of MR Records (Rev. 6, 05-24-01)

Contractors must maintain the confidentiality of all MR records before, during, and after the MR process. Similarly, contractors that use a subcontractor(s) to perform MR, to store MR records, and/or to transport MR records, are responsible for ensuring that the subcontractor(s) maintains the confidentiality of the MR records that it handles. This responsibility applies to all contact with these records by all parties and entities, however derived from the contractor. The responsibility is not limited or ended if the subcontractor allows an additional party or entity to have contact with these records. Thus, just as the contractor must assure that the subcontractor maintain confidentiality itself, so too must the contractor assure that the subcontractor similarly assures that any third party or other entity, such as a sub to the subcontractor, which has contact with the records, maintain confidentiality.